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are discussed do not invalidate this statement. The wage problem is treated prevailingly as a question of rights, and the industrial data are brought into the discussion as evidence concerning the actual and possible realization of rights taken in the ethical sense.

The author considers in successive sections of the book: I, The Bearing of Economic, Legal, and Religious Authority on the Subject in Hand; II, "The Basis, Nature, and Content of the Right to a Living Wage;" III, "Economic Facts by which the Right is Conditioned;" IV, "The Obligations Corresponding to the Right." The only part that can lay any claim to being economic discussion is the third. Here the treatment of price and distribution problems seems fairly well to reflect what is currently reputable in economic theory.

As a whole the work appears to be scholarly. The organization of the material used is excellent. On the main point however—the validity of the author's ethical theory and argument—the economic student cannot of course pass judgment.

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NOTICES

The Asiatic Danger in the Colonies. By L. E. NEAME, London: George Routledge & Sons, Ltd., 1907. 8vo, pp. xvi+192.

We are told that this book is the product of six years spent in Asia and South Africa. It is "an attempt to present a fair and impartial summary of the Asiatic difficulty as it affects the colonies, and to justify the strong feeling which exists in the great outer areas of the empire against this class of immigration." After insisting that the problem is an empire problem, and essentially economic in character, the author turns to a discussion of the value of the Asiatic, his competition, the terms of contract, and the situation in the Transvaal and Australasia. The conclusion is that "an influx of Asiatics inevitably means first a lowering of the standard of living for the white worker, and then his gradual elimination; it means that the country becomes of no value to the empire as a home for the surplus population of the United Kingdom; and in the end it means that it becomes a diminished commercial asset, and a greater strain on the defensive forces of England. The Asiatic immigrant in the West Indies or Malaya or Borneo may be of more value than the native; but the Asiatic immigrant in Australasia or South Africa, or Canada can never be as valuable to the empire as the white man. To encourage the Asiatic at the expense of the Englishman is a policy which can only end in the loss of the colonial empire." The Appendix, which occupies nearly half of the book, consists in the main of official documents discussing the problem. The volume is intended for the general public.

Bulletin of the International Labor Office. Vol. I, Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8. London: The Labor Representation Printing and Publishing Co., 1907.

Volume I of the *Bulletin of the International Labor Office* establishes its character as a publication which promises to be of great value to economists and others interested to follow the course of labor legislation in different countries. The International Association for Labor Legislation declares its "objects" to be: (1) "to serve as a bond of union to all those who believe in the necessity for labor legislation; (2) to organize an International Labor Office; (3) to facilitate the study of labor legislation in all countries and to provide information; (4) to promote international agreements on questions relating to conditions of labor; and (5) to organize International Congresses on Labor Legislation." All of these objects are well served by the *Bulletin*, which is a compendium of international and national labor legislation of Parliamentary action, and resolutions of national and international labor congresses in all countries. To each issue is appended a classified bibliography of official, semi-official, and private publications of governments, labor congresses, labor organizations, and bureaus. Volume I covers recent legislation and publications down to the last quarter of 1906. The delays attendant upon the initial difficulties of issuing the first number of the English edition have been considerable and undoubtedly future numbers will bring bibliographies and other information more nearly to date of issue.

The Negro in Business. By BOOKER T. WASHINGTON. Boston: Hertel, Jenkins & Co. 8vo, pp. 379.

The Negro in Business is designed by its author to furnish some record of "the undoubted business awakening among the negro people of the United States," and also to include "some general discussion of those factors and conditions that make for the permanent economic success of the negro race." In carrying out this purpose, Part I, is devoted to accounts of the success different members of the race have achieved in various lines of business, the material being mainly biographical in its nature, "with the hope that an increasing number of our young men may be encouraged by these examples to the advantage of the opportunities open to them in this direction." Of a more general character are the chapters dealing with negro towns and the National Negro Business League. Part II deals more with general principles. Chapters upon "Progress of the American Negro," "The Negro and the Labor Problem of the South," "The Negro and His Relation to the South," "The Fruits of Industrial Training," and "The American Negro and His Economic Value," are fruitful in matter and suggestions. The book is, of course, from the point of view of Mr. Washington, who sees "in business and industry the brightest and most hopeful phases of the race situation today."

Regulation of Commerce under the Federal Constitution. By THOMAS H. CALVERT. Northport: Edward Thompson Co., 1907. 8vo, pp. xiv+380.

Mr. Calvert has made a convenient summary of the decisions which show the limits of state and federal power over commerce. In Part I he treats

of constitutional provisions generally, in Part II of subjects of regulation, and in Part III of state taxation as affecting commerce. Fifty-five pages of index make it easy to refer to any case or subject. The book is for the student of legal and constitutional questions rather than the economist.

The World's Commercial Products. By W. G. FREEMAN AND S. E. CHANDLER. Boston, New York, Chicago: Ginn & Co., 1907. Pp. viii+391.

The subtitle of this work, "A Descriptive Account of the Economic Plants of the World and of Their Commercial Uses," indicates far more clearly than does the title the scope and character of the book. The work is not primarily for the specialist, technicalities and tables of statistics being carefully excluded, while the illustrations, colored plates, and maps run into the hundreds. The merit of the book is that it presents in the English language a good general summary of information concerning the more important economic plants, their cultivation and commercial utilization. The authors are the superintendent and the assistant of colonial economic collections, Imperial Institute, London, and they have drawn freely upon both their extensive experience and the technical literature of the subject.

Federal Anti-Trust Decisions. Edited by JAMES A. FINCH. Washington: The Government Printing Office, 1907. 2 vols., 8vo, pp. xxxvi+1210 and xxxvi+1204.

These two volumes, as the subtitle indicates, include cases decided in the United States courts under, involving, or growing out of, the enforcement of the Anti-Trust Act of July 2, 1890, as well as a few somewhat similar decisions not based on that act. The first volume covers the cases for the years 1890 to 1899, the second brings the collection down to July, 1906. Everything relating to the Sherman Act in any of the decisions is given in full. An index-digest of 167 pages makes the material easily available.

An Inquiry Into Socialism. By THOMAS KIRKUP. Third edition, revised and enlarged. London: Longmans, Green & Co., 1907. 8vo, pp. vi+216.

The second edition of this book appeared in 1888. In the new edition, as the author states, he has not found it necessary to make any essential alterations. Such changes as have been made consist almost entirely in the insertion of references to recent or contemporary events such as help to bear out the views propounded.

Chicago Traction. By S. W. NORTON, Chicago. 1907. 8vo, pp. 240.

The purpose of this book is to give a legislative and political history of the traction question in Chicago, with the recent controversy between the city and the traction companies as its central theme. The account, which is mainly based on official documents, gives a very comprehensive view of the question from the very first, treating it from the point of view of the public welfare.